

Cricket in Italy

A Cricket, a game most Italians find confusing, is becoming one of Italy's fastest-growing sports thanks to immigration from India and Pakistan. Around 20,000 people from the Indian subcontinent regularly play cricket in Italy's parks, and there are now 33 teams in a national league.

B With a few hundred thousand people from the Indian subcontinent now in Italy, there are quality players progressing from the parks into the league and national team. Simone Gambino, an Italian who became interested in cricket when he visited England and is now president of the Italian Cricket Federation, says that there are around 100,000 people from the subcontinent who want to play cricket. He wants local councils to provide places for them to play to stop ordinary people being hit by cricket balls.

C One player who wants Italy to become a world force in cricket is Gayashan Munasinghe, 21, who played in the team that beat the Netherlands in the European cricket championship in Dublin. He found it difficult to integrate when he arrived but he is proud to represent Italy. Munasinghe's father, a Colombo policeman who emigrated five years ago, is a cook in Rome.

D Munasinghe can play for Italy under rules which allow foreign residents into the team, and he is now preparing for the cricket World Cup. On Sundays he goes to a football stadium outside Naples, and pays ten euros with other Sri Lankan immigrants to play in fast one-day competitions. Friends and family come, and a few curious Italians too. Local Sri Lankan restaurants prepare fish and coconut curry, according to the organisers. Manoj Sagar Wickramanayaka, 28, who works as a cleaner in Naples after he emigrated from Sri Lanka nine years ago. Cricket first appeared in Italy in 1793, played by English sailors after they landed in Naples. British businessmen set up the Genoa Cricket and Football Club in 1893, an organisation that soon stopped playing cricket and now plays football in the Serie A league.

1 Read the text and choose the correct answers. (4 marks)

- 1 People from the Indian subcontinent...
A are all quality players.
B can only play in parks.
C are now in the national team.
D Gayashan Munasinghe...
- 2 A wants Italy to become a top international cricket team.
B is hoping to play cricket for Italy one day.
C would like to be a policeman.
D Sri Lankan immigrants...
- 3 A pay ten euros to see cricket matches.
B pay ten euros to play cricket matches.
C prefer football to cricket.
D Cricket in Italy...
- 4 A was introduced in 1893.
B was introduced by English sailors.
C will soon have a Serie A league.

2 Match words 1-8 with words from the text. (4 marks)

- 1 because of (paragraph A) *thanks to*
- 2 normal (paragraph B) *ordinary*
- 3 defeated (paragraph C) *beat*
- 4 established (paragraph D) *set up*

3 Complete the sentences with the correct prepositions. (2 marks)

- 1 Simone is very interested *in*..... cricket.
- 2 She was hit *by*..... a cricket ball.
- 3 The family emigrated *from*..... Sri Lanka five years ago.
- 4 The game was first played *by*..... sailors.

Total /10 marks

Relationships

FLIRTING

What's the best way to flirt? I asked psychologist Lucy Shaw for a few tips.

A "Most people think chatting someone up is about finding the right words. In fact, body language is more important," said Lucy. When you first meet someone, 55% of their initial impression of you is based on your appearance and body language; 38% on the way you speak and only 7% on what you actually say. She explained that both women and men were in a difficult situation so body language was vital.

B So what can you do to show you're interested? First, Lucy suggested making eye contact for more than one second. By making contact for longer, you show interest. She recommended not looking for too long though, as you might seem threatening. Once a conversation has started, look at the other person more when you are listening, glance away more when you are speaking and make brief eye contact to show you have finished.

C I asked Lucy if posture was another indicator of interest. "Women often put their head to one side to show that they fancy a man. When adopt postures which make them appear taller, such as putting one hand high up on a wall," she said. She also talked about postural echo: when you and your partner unconsciously adopt similar postures.

D Finally, I asked Lucy whether facial expressions and particularly smiling were essential. She agreed that they were, but said it was vital to distinguish between a spontaneous smile and a forced one.

E Of course, the most important thing is to be natural, rather than consciously trying to follow a list of tips. By being yourself and not trying too hard, you will find the right person.

READING

1 Look at the title of the text. Which of the following ideas do you think will be mentioned? Read the text and check.

- | | | | |
|---|---|----------------------------------|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> body language | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> hairstyle | <input type="checkbox"/> posture | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> what you say |
| <input type="checkbox"/> clothes | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> eye contact | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

2 Read the text again and answer the questions.

1 What do most people think is important when you chat someone up? *Finding the right words.*

2 Why is this idea wrong? *Because only 7% of someone's initial impression of you is based on what you say.*

3 Why is eye contact important? *Because by making eye contact for longer you show interest.*

4 What do men do when they are interested in someone? *They adopt postures which make them taller.*

5 What does the writer think is the best piece of advice? *The most important piece of advice is to be natural.*

4 Mark the sentences T (true) or F (false). Explain your answers.

- 1 Body language is more important than what you say. *True. 55% of someone's impression of you is based on your appearance and body language and only 7% on what you say...*
- 2 You shouldn't make eye contact for too long. *True... you might seem threatening.*
- 3 Smiling isn't essential. *False. Lucy Shaw agreed that smiling was "essential".*
- 4 It's important to be yourself. *True. By being yourself and not trying too hard, you will find the right person.*

- 3 Match words 1-6 with definitions A-F.
- | | |
|---------------|-----------------------------|
| 1 actually | A copy |
| 2 threatening | B look in another direction |
| 3 glance away | C suggestions |
| 4 fancy | D in reality |
| 5 mirror | E are attracted to |
| 6 tips | F intimidating |